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A
Year's
Use

—1909—

Carnegie Library
—of—
Homestead, Pennsylvania



Carnegie Library of Homestead

Founded and Endowed 1898

By Andrew Carnegie

Board of Directors

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Librarian

WILLIAM F. STEVENS

Departments

Carnegie Library

Lillian M. Hirth.....Assistant Librarian
Daisy M. Smith.....Children's Librarian
Emma H. Louis.....Cataloger
Estella C. Bossert.....Desk Assistant

Carnegie Library Club

S. P. Middleton.....Director
Willis J. Marsh.....Assistant
James McCague.....Assistant
John Brooks.....Natatorium
Alice Todd.....Swimming
Earl Nuss.....Bowling
Four pin setters

Educational Department

A. W. Soderberg.....Mechanical Drawing
A. F. Wolf.....Asst. Mch. Drawing
C. C. Marshall.....English and Science
Dana Darsie.....Foreign-English
John P. Jones.....Band
Thomas H. Jones.....Junior Orchestra
Evelyn Laffer.....Children's Chorus
Shad TinsleyOrganist

Carnegie Music Hall

USHERS: Charles Gustafson, Jos. Gustafson, Daniel McLaughlin, Chas. VanHorn, Frank Jamison, Lucas Norris

General

Harry B. Schell, day engineer; W. Barber, night engineer; Aug. Runge, janitor; William Fiedler, janitor; Walter Geiss, office boy.

Higher Life in Homestead

The Pittsburgh Gazette Times considers the annual report of Homestead Carnegie Library of sufficient importance for a very complimentary editorial notice this morning. Our town is to be complimented by the flattering notice.

The library management and the good people of Homestead appreciate the recognition of the advancement the citizens here are making intellectually and trust the wider circulation of the fact will have a good influence on be-
lighted industrial communities. The following is the editorious comment:

"Special significance attaches to the eleventh annual report of the Homestead Carnegie library. It is generally believed that an industrial community must be intellectually stagnant, and also that a large admixture of foreign elements in the population acts as a drawback upon the so-called 'higher life.' So far as this higher life is made up of bridge whist and new thought, there may be truth in the general belief; but, judging by such indices of social and mental activity as the Homestead library affords, neither the presence of aliens nor preoccupation with material interests interferes with the most gratifying progress. In fact, comparison with other communities and similar institutions gives rise to the suspicion that these factors promote instead of hampering the 'higher life.'

"The Homestead library contains 37,000 volumes and serves a community of about 30,000. Over 77,000 volumes were circulated at the adult desk last year among 11,500 readers. The total circulation in all departments was 246,000, an increase of 11,000 over the previous year. Most significant of all is the percentage of fiction read, which is only 51, being 14 per cent. lower than the average library. The report tells of 27 literary

and study clubs in the community with a membership of about 800, while the Carnegie Library club listed 3,705 members in the course of the year. It should be understood that the Homestead library is largely institutional, with swimming pools and billiard tables, brass bands, and evening classes to supplement the books upon the shelves.

"Librarian Stevens is to be congratulated upon the excellent showing of his 'plant.' But Homestead is even more to be congratulated upon the excellent use made of its opportunities to upset the theory that an industrial community is necessarily un-intellectual and materialistic."

The Program

The exhibit and concert given last night by the educational department of the Carnegie library was attended by at least seven hundred of the friends of the students in this department. Shad Tinsley, the popular organist at the library, was highly appreciated, as usual, in his renditions on the organ. Next to the organ Mr. Tinsley appears best at the piano. The piano duets by the Tinsley brothers were equally well received. The invocation was given by Rev. George L. Rankin. Rev. Rankin was at one time identified with Thiel college and is heartily in sympathy with things educational. The Blackley Brothers of the Library band made a hit in their cornet and saxophone duets. Mrs. Edith Harris Scott never fails to please her audience. Last night she seemed at her best. Many of her friends are at a loss to know if she sings better than she reads or read better than she sings. It is a credit to our town to have in it an entertainer of such quality and with a national reputation. The Junior orchestra with Thomas Jones, director, was out in full force. Their selections were so well received that the audience was inclined to keep them playing the remainder of the evening.

The annual report of the library was presented under the title of "A Year's Use." W. F. Stevens, the librarian, succeeded in giving the statistics enough variety to make them interesting. In the absence of A. R. Hunt, president of the board of directors, the librarian in a brief but appropriate address, conferred the certificates of honor upon the following students, who had attended 75 per cent. of the sessions for three years and had done creditable work: Frank Joseph Pomayer, Charles Mark Guy, Louis William Easer, Joseph Raymond Easer, and Fred J. Skyrms.

The report indicates the most useful

year in the history of the library and the exercises last night are said by many to be a fitting concluding to such a marked year's use of our most noble institution.

Report

The old catechetical idea that the chief end of man was to "Glorify God and to enjoy Him forever" is not at variance with the idea that the purpose of life is to enjoy all that is good and beautiful. To accomplish this great end we are given intellects to guide us, bodies to execute the will of the mind, and a moral nature to guard both. To develop these three functions is the purpose of educational institutions, religious organizations, and the exercise of daily life and the directed physical culture of athletic associations and physical development.

In founding this institution Andrew Carnegie did not aim to duplicate the work of the organizations that have this same motive, but to supplement them, instead. This does not apply to the athletic work, because in that he expected us to lead. At one time the Greek was acknowledged the highest type of physical and intellectual development, but when he neglected the moral side of his life the nation went into decay. If our own glorious country is to withstand this same element of decay it behooves the thinking and acting people of our land to emphasize the interest in eugenics, tuberculosis, play grounds, and other similar agencies.

Library

How well our own library has contributed toward the general good of the community may be seen from these figures:

Circulation

In the library the circulation of books was 245,800. This is equivalent to circulating the total of 37,000 volumes in the library $8\frac{1}{2}$ times, or

10 books for every man, woman and child in this community, or 21 volumes for every reader. Of this circulation 77,500 was at the adult desk, 51,600 at the juvenile desk, 116,600 in the schools, 90,000 of which is supplementary reading, the remaining 26,600 was at stations located in the schools throughout the township. All told this is a gain of 11,800 or 5 per cent. over last year. The total attendance was 133,700.

There were 1838 games bowled in the alleys. Eight teams contested in the league games.

Club Membership

The increased usefulness is not confined to any one department. The athletic department reports an average membership of 1,170 per month or 3,705 different members for the year. This, in all probability, places the Carnegie Library Club in the lead among organizations of its kind in western Pennsylvania. This is a gain of 973 members compared with last year. The total attendance was 97,750, a gain of 8,710. The gymnasium shows an attendance of 21,000 by 1,290 members in classes. Basketball holds its own with 30 teams with a membership of 270.

Natatorium

If the old adage that "cleanliness is next to godliness" be true then it must be admitted that the natatorium has done a righteous business. The total number of baths was 69,570, a gain of 14,312. This is 19 baths for each member for the year or one bath every three weeks; so you see there is still room for improvement.

Music Hall

The Music hall was used more than ever before in a single year, the total attendance being 31,600. The several musical organizations deserve your approbation and good will for the free concerts given from time to time. We are taught to believe that Heaven is

full of music, then who can estimate the good coming from the concerts and recitals that have lifted you, for the time being, above the cares and sorrows of this mundane sphere. Come here with all your aches and pains for it is said music will cure everything—but the toothache.

Educational

And lastly the Educational department, in whose honor we meet tonight.

Knowledge is of two kinds, the kind you know and the kind you know where to find. The teacher's duty is to lead the scholar in search of the former and the librarian's office to conduct the reader in search of the latter. The ultimate aim is the same, hence, the work of the teacher and librarian go hand in hand.

If it is proper for the library to furnish books for the people it is right they should be good books. If the library has the right to control the character of the reading, it has a right to direct the reader to the desired information which supplements the work of the teacher. The educational department is but the outgrowth of this idea. As the work in this instance must necessarily be limited, it is confined largely to studies of practical use to the students in their daily work.

Scientific and Literary Classes

In what is designated as scientific and literary classes there was during this season a marked increase in enrollment, being 187 compared with 134 last year, a gain of 53, or 39 per cent. The attendance, however, is virtually the same as a year ago, being 2,887 compared with 2,895.

There were in all 55 students enrolled in the mechanical drawing class which has been taught eight consecutive years by A. W. Soderberg. The attendance was 1.136. This is 9 more

students and 78 in attendance more than last year. Eighteen of these pupils attended 75 per cent. of the possible sessions.

The common and higher branches under the instruction of Prof. C. C. Marshal show an increase of 17 in enrollment.

In the common branch class, where grammar, arithmetic, spelling and history were taught, the enrollment was 54 and the attendance, 790.

In the higher branch class, where trigonometry, geometry, algebra, physics, higher arithmetic and beginning Latin were taught, the enrollment was 23 and attendance 293.

The class for foreigners under Prof. Dana Darsie had an enrollment of 24, and an attendance of 386. The students desiring writing were requested to report to Prof. Darsie after their recitation in other classes when they were given an opportunity to practice penmanship. Twenty-one students enrolled in this class which had an attendance of 230.

Music

The interest in the musical department is equally gratifying.

The band has a membership of 35 with an attendance for the year of 1,500. Three free concerts were given in the Music hall with an attendance of 2,100. As many more concerts were given in the band stand to audience of equal size. There is a cordial and harmonious feeling among the members of the band, which is due to the ability and agreeable personality of John P. Jones, the director.

The Junior orchestra is under the instruction and direction of Thomas H. Jones. Its work needs no praise from my lips, its efficiency stands for itself. It has had during the winter an enrollment of 31 and an attendance of 673. This orchestra has given three free concerts with an attendance of 1,750.

The Children's Chorus under the direction of Miss Evelyn Laffer, of the Homestead schools, had an enrollment of 125 with an attendance of 1,300.

By comparing the classes this year with the same classes last year there is an attendance of 6,437, a gain of 981. The total enrollment was 388, a gain of 24 over last year. The total attendance in all departments was 274,300. The average gain during the past year in all departments was 17.5 per cent.

The Staff

The work of the library has long since become too great for any one person to run it. Co-operation and efficiency is the spirit that prevails. Without these the work could not possibly be conducted. The extraordinary circulation of 51,000 from the children's room is handled by the children's librarian, Miss Daisy Mary Smith, and it is well known that this is not the limit of her usefulness in this community. At the adult desk, Miss Lillian Hirth and Miss Estella C. Bossert handled a circulation of 77,500 besides controlling the reading and reference room with a usefulness of 40,000 more.

Four thousand two hundred volumes were added during the year; all classified and catalogued and made possible for effective use by our cataloger, Mrs. Emma H. Louis.

The interest and co-operation of the teachers in handling a circulation of 116,600, is also worthy of honorable mention.

The marked success in the athletic department is but the natural consequence of the character and ability of S. P. Middleton and his assistant, Willis J. Marsh. If the library has quadrupled its usefulness in nine years it is also true that the club has tripled its membership and usefulness in the same time.

It is equally worthy of mention that the remainder of the thirty-two employes have each contributed his share toward the success of the library during the past year.

The valuable space given in the Daily Messenger during the year, has aided materially the success of the library.

To the Class

Remarks upon the presentation of the certificates of honor:

The first evidence of an education is correctness and precision in the use of the mother tongue. If there is any one thought persistently emphasized from the first grade to the high school more than any other it is this. A child reared in a home where only good language is used and permitted to read only good books will use good language if he never sees a grammar. The grammar is necessary, however, in our scheme of education. The value of the library in supplying good books that have the effect of contributing toward the effective use of language is paramount.

The second evidence of an education is refined and gentle manners which are the expression of fixed habits of thought and action. Addison said, "Manners are good breeding." According to the Latin they are more, for the word *mores* stands for usages, habits, manners and morals. Manners, real manners, the manners of a truly educated man or woman are an outward expression of an intellectual and moral conviction. The library stands for the intellectual and moral and can, therefore, be said to contribute toward this phase of education.

The third evidence of an education is power and habit of reflection. This is one evidence to which the public library may be a detriment. If one-half of our reading is fiction and one-half of the fiction is classed as up-

to-date novels the one-fourth of the use of the books circulated from the library may contribute toward disjointed thinking. Philosophy is the great single study by which the power of reflection is developed; but there is a philosophic study of literature, politics and natural science which contributes to the same end. The question how, whose answer is science, and the question why, whose answer is philosophy, are the beginnings of reflection. If you would be truly educated ask both questions continuously.

The fourth evidence of an education is the power of growth. A mind continuing to grow and develop throughout a long life is an impressive sight. It was that characteristic in Gladstone which made his personality so attractive to young and ambitious men. He is an example of what is the lot of every mind whose training is effective. Broadened views, widened sympathies, deepened insights, are the indices of growth. Bishop Spaulding said: "To further this process by deliberate and intelligent effort is to educate." And it might be added, to educate so as to sow the seed of continuous growth, both intellectual and moral.

As a fifth evidence of an education I name efficiency, the power to do. Today the truly educated man must be, in some sense, efficient. High efficiency begins with the intellect. Its mechanical form is always subordinate. Bacon said: "Knowledge is power." It is power only when it is the outgrowth of an established and habitual relationship between the intellect and the will, and then it must be made power and that can be done only by the one who possesses knowledge. The habit of making knowledge power is efficiency. Without it education is incomplete.

Are you deficient in the first requisite? Then follow the directions of

your grammar, logic, rhetoric and psychology coupled with a study of the style of our best authors. Put at the head of the list the master piece of your mother tongue—the Bible.

Are you short on the second? Then acquire knowledge by the systematic and directed reading of books of power. Assimilate and impart this knowledge to others and your habits will become as fixed and as gentle and as refined as the ideals you have discovered in your reading.

Are you weak in the third? Study to know yourself, then assert your will. If it be necessary, put your judgment in the workhouse, but demand activity and your habit of reflection will compel respect for your judgment on all occasions.

Have you been stunted in the fourth? Then turn the soil over and if the quality is defective, read, read, read, not words as Hamlet did but thoughts after Shakespeare, Milton and Emerson. Fertilize and irrigate by interest and the exercise of reflection and when you have all this, coupled with a hunger to do a great thing well, your fifth evidence—the power to do or efficiency—will be exemplified in your accomplishments and their influence on your fellows as you mingle with them from day to day. And finally, when your great work is brought to a climax, it will be universally said that the world has been made better for your having lived.

—*The Daily Messenger.*

Comparative Statistics for 1908 and 1909

Departments—	1908	1909	Gain	Loss
LIBRARY.				
Inventory	33,961	36,942	2,981	.....
Accessions	3,753	4,220	467	.....
Withdrawn	944	1,239	295	.....
CIRCULATION	235,247	245,831	10,584	.....
Adult Desk	77,774	77,512	.....	262
Juvenile Desk	49,575	51,665	1,090	.....
Schools	78,058	90,195	12,137	.....
Stations	29,840	26,459	.....	3381
PERCENTAGE OF FICTION..	53	51	.....	2
ATTENDANCE	131,869	133,700	1,821	.....
Adult	79,111	80,500	1,389	.....
Juvenile	52,768	53,200	432	.....
READERS	11,000	11,500	500	.....
READING ROOM USE	93,000	97,500	4,500	.....
EDUCATION—Attendance..	5,900	7,126	1,226	8
Scientific	2,895	2,887	.....	.....
Musical	2,561	3,550	989	.....
Number Students	364	388	24	.....
STUDY CLUBS	25	27	2	.....
Membership	750	800	50	.....
THE CLUB.				
MEMBERSHIP. Av. Monthly	994	1,179	185	.....
Employees	374	424	50	.....
Non-Employees	262	291	29	.....
Boys	224	285	61	.....
Girls	55	99	44	.....
Ladies	79	80	1	.....
Different Members	2,732	3,705	973	.....
ATTENDANCE	89,042	97,754	8,712	.....
Gymnasium	19,721	21,013	1,292	.....
Gymnasium Members...	950	1,043	93	.....
Natatorium	55,356	69,569	14,213	.....
BOWLING GAMES	2,216	1,832	.....	384
MUSIC HALL.				
Events	22	34	12	.....
Attendance	13,370	31,625	18,255	.....
Attendance—Grand Totals...	240,390	274,350	33,960	.....
Percentage of Gain	12.4	17.5	5.1	

Circulation by Years

